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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

May 10, 1991

(Month of April)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased during April for the second consecutive month. The land crew total decreased by one to 87, and the marine crew total decreased by one, a net decrease of two crews, for a total of 110 crews.

The April total (110) represents a decrease of 2% from last month, a 12% decrease from April, 1990, a 16% decrease from April, 1989, a 44% decrease from April, 1988, a 33% decrease from April, 1987, a 46% decrease from April, 1986, and **a decrease of 71% from the same month in 1985.**

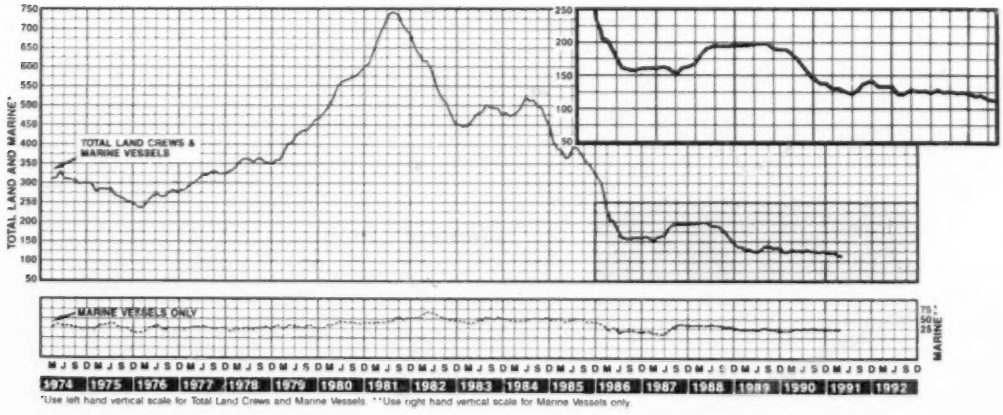
During April, two contractors were operating three of the 81 land crews and none of the twenty-one marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Apr.'90	Apr.'89	Apr.'88	Apr'87	Apr.'86	Apr.'85
	110	112	125	131	196	164	205	383

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Apr. 1990	Apr. 1989	Apr. 1988	Apr. 1987	Apr. 1986	Apr. 1985	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Apr. 1990	Apr. 1989	Apr. 1988	Apr. 1987	Apr. 1986	Apr. 1985
32 Contr's:	81	82	93	99	152	131	159	304	21	21	21	19	24	16	15	39
4 Oil Co's:	6	6	8	10	15	14	26	32	2	3	2	3	4	3	5	7
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
TOTALS	87	88	101	109	167	145	185	336	23	24	24	22	29	19	20	47

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
M J S D M J S D
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

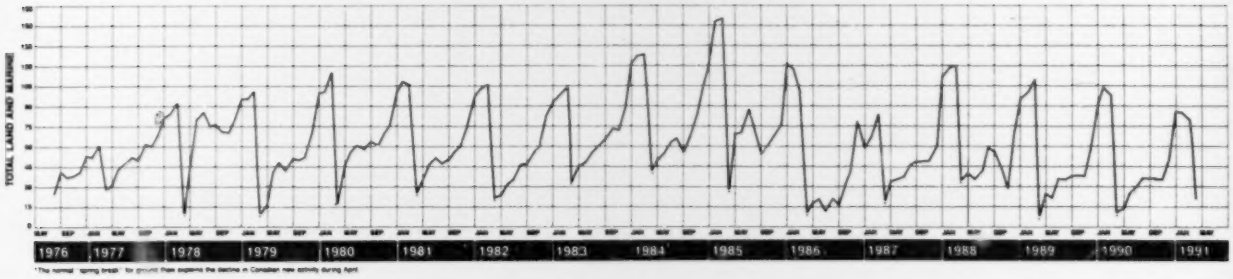
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

April, 1991 (March figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Crews
13 Contractors:	21 (81)	0 (0)
0 Oil Companies:	0 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	21 (82)	0 (0)

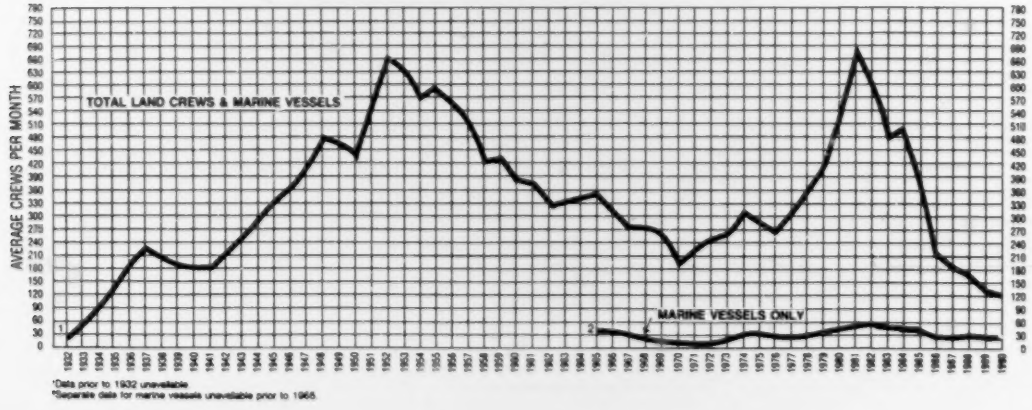
"Spring Break" for ground thaw explains the decline in Canadian crew activity during April.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1966